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LIFE AND LIGHT FOR WOMAN.



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
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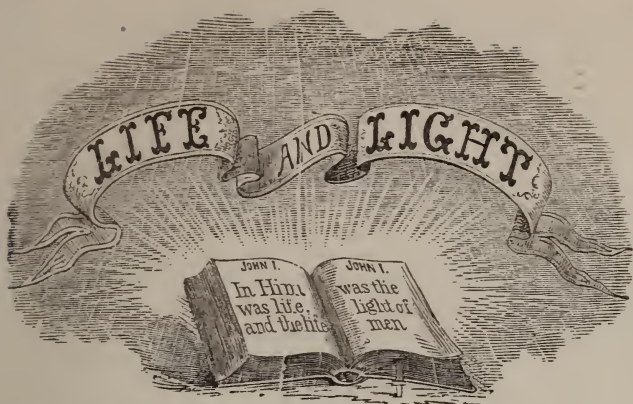
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FOR WOMAN.

VOL. XVI.

APRIL, 1886.

No. 4.

TURKEY.

TOURING NOTES.

BY MISS M. A. C. ELY, OF BITLIS.

WHILE impressions are fresh, I will try and tell you a little about my tour in the lake and Boolanite districts, from which I returned yesterday.

Matters in Bitlis did not admit of Rev. Mr. Cole's going, but circumstances favored my making the tour. I took with me as helper an assistant teacher, a graduate of '83, a footman as guide and servant, and a zartieh; for although the roads are comparatively safe, it seemed desirable that I should have governmental escort.

Our first day's journey brought us to Tadvan, a good-sized Armenian village situated on the southwest shore of Lake Van. This village has been occupied by a teacher at different times, but the work has never been very forward. At present we have no helper there. The Gregorians have a school, whose pupils are pledged, on entering, to remain four years. The first class, consisting of eight boys and one girl completed the course of study in the autumn. With most of these scholars I had long talks; I

found them quite ignorant of the Bible, and gave them a few tracts and papers, with which they were greatly pleased. It was interesting to see the group of them seated on the floor, by the dim light of a tallow candle, eagerly reading, many of them aloud. One boy said to me: "Teacher, this is a very beautiful story." I saw he was reading a little tract called "The Debt Paid,"—a plain statement of Christ's finished work for the sinner. We had a long talk with the girl of the class, Nectar, who, by her education, was so different from her companions. She has been engaged by her friends—wholly against her will—to an illiterate young man of a near village. She will probably be unhappy herself, and make those around her so, for she is very proud, and feels keenly the superiority her education gives her; and her utter lack of ornaments—which she says she detests—was very noticeable, for they are worn in great profusion by the girls of the place. Having discarded the rude adornments so common around her, she has not, however, the ornament of a meek and quiet spirit, which alone can enable her to use her attainments aright. I gave her some earnest words to think of, but felt more encouragement in talking to the simple-hearted women who came in, or whom I called on in their homes. . . .

Monday we awoke to see rain falling heavily. A few visitors came in, however, giving us our desired opportunity for service. By two o'clock the rain ceased, and we were able to set out and reach the place next in our programme. Stopping a short time at Dsaag, a large village on the lake-shore, I talked with a preacher and his wife about locating one of our graduates there, as a Bible-reader and teacher. They were greatly cheered at the prospect of having some one who could work for the women and teach the girls—a service for which the preacher's wife, with a family of little children and poor health, was quite unequal. As we were to come to Dsaag again on our return journey, we hastened on, reaching Aghagh just at dusk. We had several pupils at this place. I went at once to the home of one of them, and was told the girls had gone to their daily prayer-meeting, held on one of the lower threshing-floors. To hear that my dear scholars were thus engaged formed the sweetest of welcomes. I planned to join them at their secluded prayer-place, but some eager children called them too quickly.

We had pleasant interviews with the people of this village, and found the girl whom we wished to labor at Dsaag quite ready to go. Since she had relatives there, could board with an aunt, and be so near home that her brother, a reliable, Christian man, could see her often, the plan for her going seemed highly suitable. To

keep this part of my little story together, I may add, that on my return I had the sincere pleasure of accompanying this new laborer to her field, and seeing her actually at work. I arranged everything I could to insure her success and safety. It is a new thing here, and not unattended with some danger, to put a young woman in this position.

In a letter that has just come from this girl she writes, in alluding to the work upon which she has entered: "I pledged, and do pledge, myself to spend my life for my Saviour. I know that in this short and transitory life there is no greater joy than this. Nevertheless, dear mother, now that by the grace of my Saviour I am in this work, I see myself very unsuitable, weak, and cold. Oh, what am I, that my Father intrusts to me, a feeble one, this great work?" In the same letter she expresses much gratitude to her teachers, closing with: "I can never forget the dear mothers who cared for me from my childhood, nor the dear dwelling in which I had my education, both spiritual and physical. Should I be able to forget, all nature would protest to my conscience." We most earnestly ask your prayers that this dear child of our fervent love and efforts may be given wisdom and patience rightly to conduct the new work intrusted to her charge.

To resume the narrative of our tour: After staying over one night at Aghagh, we continued our journey northward. To secure a little rest and eat our lunch, we stopped at noon at Gannouch, where a crowd of men, women, and children gathered around us. To them we read a part of the fifth chapter of Matthew. Our listeners formed two parties: one of them said if the Lord would deliver them from the oppression of the present misrule they would serve him; the other party averred that it was our duty to obey God under any and all circumstances. We left them discussing among themselves this vital question. . . .

The next out-station we reached was Therkaob. During our stay we had many calls from the women and children, and visited at the houses. The parents of one of our schoolgirls showed us pleasant hospitality. I cannot soon forget a scene we witnessed here. Our host and his entire family—wife and four little children—felt compelled to go to Bitlis, to settle a debt he had incurred some years ago, by becoming surety for a Turk to the amount of five pounds. This had increased tenfold, but payments had been made from time to time. The creditor was giving the man much trouble—so much so that he lived in daily fear. As a last resort he determined to draw up a petition, and, with his entire family, fall at the feet of the Turk and plead for mercy.

It was very cold—a little past midnight. The children, aroused

from their sleep and imperfectly clad, brought out into the chill night air, cried piteously. The two younger ones were to ride in woolen bags, carried by a donkey. To overcome their fear and get them into the bags was a matter of no little time and patience, which the father finally accomplished. The poor mother, but recently recovered from illness, stood wearily by, trying to comfort and encourage the children, who were trembling with fear and cold. A group of sympathetic bystanders gave vent to many unique expressions of cheer to the family, and of indignation over the hard-heartedness of the creditor. Three long, tedious days of travel over rough roads at that late season, with probably a return still later, lay before the sad little caravan as it slowly moved away from the place whither they had fled some years before to escape persecution. We were told that the man, who had maintained good composure during the trying scene of getting started, when he reached the village limits, turning back a few paces, offered an ejaculatory prayer, and wept aloud. The thoughtful woman, as she bade us "remain in peace," added: "I'm so sorry I have to leave you uncared for. I have put food to cook in the 'tonir,' which a man will bring in to you in the morning." As we hastened in from the penetrating night air, we could not keep the sad scene out of mind, but from hearts grieved for the injustice, cried out, "How long, O Lord, how long shall such unrighteousness be suffered?" . . .

At Shevansheik we reached the most distant point of our tour. From there we came to Tonjaloo, one of our oldest out-stations, where an earnest preacher is located. After talking with some women who came in to see us, we went out to an open space near by, where a group of over twenty girls, most of them returning from milking their sheep, gathered and listened eagerly to us, asking many questions, such as, "Is it a sin to curse?" They were bright, pleasant girls, and my heart went out in deep longings for them, that they might seek and find the knowledge of the truth.

Returning through the out-stations, we tried to add words of help and cheer. I was much impressed on this tour with the need of laborers. I will only add the heartfelt plea, "Pray ye, therefore, the Lord of the harvest, that he will send forth laborers into his harvest."

BIBLE-WORK IN TURKEY.

BY MISS C. E. BUSH.

(CONCLUDED.)

I STARTED on last year's touring work with the determination to obtain all the pledges to read the Bible daily which I could possibly

gain, giving a picture for a mark, and promising to pray daily for the reader, and I have one hundred and fourteen names on my list; but I almost dread to go about again and ask how many have faithfully kept the pledge.

In calling at a house last fall, I found a blind woman, about thirty-six years of age, and of course unmarried. She was the daughter of a priest, who loved her, and taught her much from the Bible. Dying, he left her a double portion, which had been stolen from her, leaving her alone and poor. She is specially comforted by the text, "I will not leave you orphans" (as it is in the Armenian), and loves to hear the Scripture read. A sweet, placid expression shows her peace of soul.

In another humble dwelling lived alone, for many years, an aged man and his wife, both members of the church, and earnest, prayerful Christians. Together they went to the chapel to every meeting possible, each leaning on a staff. The voice of family prayer was always heard in their house; the well-thumbed Bible was always near at hand, and neither of them was ever heard to pray without earnestly entreating God's blessing on the American Board, the missionaries, and all benevolent societies. It was something just as much to be expected as the closing "Amen." The old man, between eighty and ninety years of age, called "Physician Alexander," from his knowledge of the healing art, very deaf, and daily growing more feeble, now sits alone, reading the Bible almost all day long, and declaring that it is his one comfort, for Aiya (Mother) has "gone before" as he says, and he is "only waiting to follow."

Another aged pilgrim, who has almost reached the allotted period of man's life, and seems now very near the other world, said to us one day: "As one would rejoice over the coming of angels, so I rejoice over your coming, for I have no one to sit and speak to me of Christ. The world has gone from me all at once. The Bible is different from what it was three years ago. It is wonderful, bright, blessed. I was persuaded to be a Protestant by the Bible, but my persuasion is different now from then."

"Do you haste to go to heaven?" we asked.

With his rugged face all aglow he replied, eagerly, "Yes, yes, indeed."

The Bible was close by him, and the "Saint's Rest," and Flavel's "Keeping the Heart." He read to-us himself, "For me to live is Christ," etc., and remarked, "Some of what Paul says I can say, and some I cannot." Every day he chooses a text from the Bible on which to feast and live. That day it was, "Verily, verily I say unto you, he that entereth in by the door is the Shepherd of the

sheep," etc. He bitterly mourns the cold and worldly state of the church in his city.

While calling at a house one day, there sat before me two aged women, one a constant attendant upon the Gregorian, the other upon the Protestant church. I asked the former what she had learned in her long lifetime in the Gregorian church, whereat she simply shrugged her shoulders.

"For instance," I said, "please answer me some questions. Where was Christ crucified?"

She could not tell; but the Protestant sister quickly replied, "At Jerusalem."

"What was the name of the place on which the cross stood?"

No answer from the Gregorian, but from the Protestant promptly came the reply, "Golgotha."

"How many disciples had Christ?"

The Gregorian still remained dumb, but, though the Protestant woman could not read, and was old and weak, yet because she had been to the chapel for years, and heard the Bible there, she knew it all. In former years a woman was not even to touch a Bible, lest she defile it.

"The entrance of thy word giveth light," and this light creeps into most unexpected places. In one village I sold a primer to a priest for a gift to his son's betrothed, and he begged me to come often to that village and teach the women, even once a month. I sat long in his house reading, talking, and praying. In the same village a bride came to a house where I was calling, and the first thing I noticed as she entered was a Testament snugly tucked away under the expansive bib of her apron. The family of her husband are bitterly opposed to that truth, and will not let her come to the chapel; but hiding her Testament in her bosom, she steals away to the house of a neighbor for a daily lesson from God's Word, which she loves. In the same place, some years ago, a girl, sixteen years of age, was about to be married. In among her garments that her mother had prepared for her *trousseau* was placed a Testament.

A young woman in a Gregorian family, earnestly desiring to read the Bible, but being bitterly opposed by her parents; the Protestant preacher's wife daily came at a certain time, and, giving a peculiar knock at the street-door, agreed upon by both as a signal, this seeker after the truth would quietly slip down, open the door, and they would both steal into the stable, where the lesson would be given. Since the days when the Christ-child was laid in the manger, how many stables in this Eastern land have been refuges for secret and social prayer and the study of God's Word!

The young woman, in these circumstances, read as far as Hebrews. One day there was a fearful storm, and as she was ascending the stairs, she was struck by lightning, and fell senseless, the babe in her arms being killed. Her parents then wept and mourned that they had not given her liberty to read and pray; but on her recovery were as hard and bitter as ever, and their opposition gradually broke the courage of this feeble one: she lost zeal and interest and relapsed into a worldly state; for which with what anguish will those opposing parents give answer at the bar of God! How fearful must be the woe of those who shut out others from the light!

In another village I met an old man who bore on his arm the sign of the cross and other devices tattooed in blue ink, denoting him to have been on a pilgrimage to the Holy City. Once he was very zealous in the Gregorian faith. It was his duty to wake the priest for the early morning prayers, and no plan was formed for the Gregorian community without consulting him; but, on his return from Jerusalem, something drew him secretly to the chapel, and he was, little by little, persuaded of the truth, especially by this precious text, "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved." When I entered his house without knocking, as is the custom here, I discovered a peaceful family scene,—the baby and kitten asleep, and the daughter-in-law reading to the old man.

"Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil." How often is this valley lighted for those who enter it, and for the dear ones left behind, by God's Word. Brother S. was one of the first Protestants brought out from the Gregorian church in his village. He early learned to love the Bible, and had many of different styles in his house; but there was one in particular which he would allow no one but himself to touch, he held it so dear. For many years he was troubled by a distressing cough, and finally, for nine days, was ill in bed, raising blood. When extremely weak he allowed his son to read to him from his own particular Bible, and did not fail to correct any mistakes made by the reader. At the last he asked some one to pray, and after the prayer he rose up on his knees and prayed himself a long time; he never once asked for health, and then they knew he expected to die. On closing, he laid his head down upon his pillow, and quietly fell asleep in Jesus.

Nine days after his death, his widow was at the women's prayer-meeting, so contrary to custom, which requires the mourner to stay months in the house alone. When I visited her, though she wept sore, she showed me her husband's Bible, which her eldest son, fifteen years old, claimed, as his own, promising to read it

every day, and to strive to take his father's place in the family and church. He and his mother were one day seen coming out of the stable, where they had been to pray together.

"Even to your old age I am He, and even to hoar hairs will I carry you." In one place is a woman a hundred or more years old, who is an illustration of this promise. Loving God's Word as she does, summer and winter find her on the way to the chapel leaning on her staff, but walking briskly, happy, and peaceful in her old age, and a joy to all who see her.

We had twelve Bible-women at work last winter, and were sensible of new interest springing up in all places where they were employed. Our constant prayer would be, "Oh, send out Thy light and Thy truth; let them lead me, let them bring me into Thy holy hill and to Thy tabernacles," until all this dark land shall be illumined, and no knee be bowed to the image of a saint, or toward Mecca, but all classes shall know and love our one only intercessor and Saviour, Jesus Christ, the Lord.

Young People's Department.

THE OTHER GIRL'S WORK.

BY MRS. DANIEL LOTHROP.



MISS PRISCILLA HOVEY put down the December *LIFE AND LIGHT*, rubbed her little gray eyes violently, and thought a bit.

"Melindy," she remarked at last to the small spare figure the other side of the table, "you and I won't last always."

Miss Melinda started, and ran the needle with which she was repairing the ravages of Time upon the family hose, into her well-worn finger.

"Of course not—of course not," she assented nervously; "'twouldn't be according to nature if we did. But what makes you say it this morning, pray tell?"

"Because I can't get back the other mornings in which I ought to have said it," replied Miss Priscilla; "and this morning's mine—at least, so far."

"Well, go on," said Miss Melinda, "and don't be preambing so long." With that she gave the last thrust of the shining implement into the stocking-heel, snipped off the mending-cotton, peered closely for other thin places; and finding none, rolled up the completed pair. "That's done," she said, with a final pat.

"We may go sudden," continued Miss Priscilla, nowise disturbed by the brisk reminders to hasten,— "no one can tell; and we shan't leave things very ship-shape if that does happen."

"For goodness' sake, Priscilla," cried Miss Melinda, sharply; and pushing up her spectacles, she peered closely at her sister's face, "what are you driving at? I declare, I'm as nervous as a witch to hear you go on. And if we *are* called without warning, I'm free to confess we've nothing on our minds that we ought to have fixed to make things easy for the estate to be settled. And the house is in good order. I wouldn't be ashamed to have anybody step in any time and go all through it, from cellar to garret. What do you mean?"

"I mean we're as shiftless as if we expected to live always and see to things," declared Miss Priscilla, decidedly; and the glow on her cheek, like the color of a late autumn apple, deepened. "Give me that pair of black stockings; I'll mend them, Melindy."

"No; it's my stent, the stocking-bag is, and I don't want any help on it," said her sister. "You've got your work done; I'll see to these. For mercy's sake tell what's on your mind!"

"Melindy," said the tall woman, abruptly, and letting her gaze rest on the little, anxious face, "who's going to take our places and go on with the mission work in Botsford when we and the other workers die?"

"Oh, is that all?" exclaimed Miss Melinda, with a great breath of relief; "why, the Lord will provide," she added piously, "and raise up laborers in his vineyard."

"Yes, he does provide;" assented her sister, "but then, I've noticed it's generally by giving the workers already in the field a little common sense to look out for the future. Laborers are not raised in a minute, Melindy, any more'n children."

"You take everything out of the Lord's hands," cried the little woman, reprovingly.

"On the contrary, I leave it all where it is, in his hands," declared Miss Priscilla. "I would only work with him."

"But you're worrying over what isn't your business," persisted Miss Melinda, "and trying to control the future. You should trust. If he wants the missionary work to succeed, he can do it without you or me. 'The earth is the Lord's, and the fulness thereof,'" she brought up, glad to feel her feet on the rock of a text, "and he'll convert it in his own time."

"Now see here, Melindy," (the tall woman quickly put aside the big mending-basket to lean over the space where it had been,) "of all things on this earth, if religion means *anything*, it is that every bit of sound common sense that is used in every-day affairs of life should be brought to bear on the Christian experience. We should plan, and study the best methods, and sense things ahead, and increase our capital in the shape of new workers, and do everything we can with just as much energy as though looking out for our money-matters, and doing the housework."

"You are making spiritual things dreadfully common," said Miss Melinda, aghast at her sister's manner and words.

"I wish they were common," remarked Miss Priscilla, dryly; "until they do become so, it stands us all in hand who are professors to do what we can to stem the tide of evil, and keep the Devil off from our field. Melindy, it's a sin and a shame that I haven't waked up before. Now that I have, I mean to do something, instead of drifting on in the old sluggish current."

Miss Melinda shook her head. The old currents were good enough for her. They were safe, and respectable; and she had a wholesome horror of new excitement in any form. In spiritual things they were to be abhorred as holding no good for one who indulged a safe hope in salvation, according to the faith of her fathers. Was she not Deacon Solomon Hovey's daughter, born into election and grace by a controlling Providence, and led up from youth to that serene, early afternoon that ought to come to one whose day had been so circumspect? Did not Priscilla and she don their Sunday bonnets and shawls every other Wednesday afternoon, and wending their way to the lecture-room of the church, add themselves to a slender company of women willing to be known as the Botsford Auxiliary of the Woman's Board of Missions? They had prayers for the heathen—exhaustive, and in no way partial, all the way round the globe their petitions serving every mission-field alike. Occasionally the parson's wife, who was a young creature, and shuddered at the sound of her own voice, would suggest that the ladies take up some new topic for study in missionary intelligence, and come prepared by a paper, or a fresh letter from the field, to the next meeting.

But this always fell flat, and, though the same members held staunchly to the auxiliary, there was no influx of new ones, and things went on as they had done from time immemorial.

But God, with infinite patience, leads his children at last to the light. For Miss Priscilla Hovey, the last dull meeting, with its round of monotonous prayers and its stereotyped readings of Scripture passages, was over. She would put her hand to the

work, and realizing what *her* soul-awakening meant, try to help others up to the same light; and first, she would work among the young people.

"After all, what are we but dry bones at the best," she said to herself; "our hope lies in the children."

Now she brought it all to the surface, — these new aspirations that had possessed her for the past week, — and laid her soul bare to her sister's eyes.

"I shall start at once and begin on Elfrida Smith, and see if she will not help me form a Mission Circle," she exclaimed, getting out of her chair, "no time like the present."

To her dying day, she carried the remembrance of the look Miss Melinda sent after her, too helpless in her astonishment to accompany it with words. And she tied on her bonnet and thrust in her big shawl-pin with the feeling that special prayers ought to go up for *her*, as for one who goes out to fields of unknown peril.

But once in the fresh air, with the crisp snow beneath her feet, she felt her spirits rise, and the exhilaration of a new purpose sent the blood through her old veins with the bounding life of a young girl. She turned in at the Smith's gateway, hopeful and radiant.

"Oh, Miss Priscilla!" cried Elfrida, running out on the steps, "I'm so glad you've come! Mother was just saying she wished you'd happen in."

"I've come to call on *you*, to-day," said Miss Priscilla with a smile.

"On *me*?" cried Elfrida, in astonishment.

"On you my dear, most especially."

The tall woman by this time was well within the house, and in the midst of a bevy of children of all ages and sizes, Mrs. Smith hurrying from the back-ground with outstretched hand.

"I've been coming some time to see you," said the visitor, with a nod to the comfortable little matron; "to-day my call is upon Elfrida."

"Elfrida?" repeated the mother in astonishment.

"Yes, Elfrida; I've come especially to see her. Now, then, can I have a little talk with you and with her?"

The little mother made ineffectual attempts to quiet the clamor of the young Smiths, who, recognizing that they were defrauded from the least hint of the secret of the mysterious call, now set up a babel of cries and remonstrances at being sent out. The door was finally between them, and the three left in the keeping-room; and their howls growing fainter as hope of their mother's relenting disappeared, Miss Priscilla ventured to think she might be heard, and at once began.

"Elfrida, I want to know if you will help me form a mission circle?"

"A *what*?" cried Elfrida and Elfrida's mother.

"A mission circle of all your mates in school and any of the young people they might be interested to bring in," said Miss Priscilla, boldly, "to help us old workers in our auxiliary. You can write letters to the missionaries who are longing to hear from young hearts; you can work for the cause in various ways I will suggest to you later; and you can hold your meetings, and take up new and interesting work as you grow strong in it."

"Oh, I can't!" exclaimed Elfrida, with a gasp as if all the heathen were after her.

"She's too young," said her mother; "besides, she goes to school."

"'Tisn't anything against her that she's trying to get a little learning," said Miss Priscilla. "I never heard that the Lord cared specially for an ignoramus to work for him."

"I mean she has all her time taken up now," said Mrs. Smith; "I don't see how she can do anything more."

"Elfrida, don't you ever run around and see the girls at their homes?" asked Miss Priscilla, turning on her suddenly.

"Why, of course," said Elfrida, coming out of her fright, now that there was a prospect of relief; "lots of times; and they come here to see me. It's great fun."

"Exactly. Now, would any time be lost if one afternoon in two weeks all you girls who run around to each other's houses, should meet in the parlor of one of them and talk over something that paid for the time,—some interesting information of the work going on in far-away lands; and that while you were having a good time together, you should feel that you were learning something of the needs of others, and doing your best to help them? Wouldn't that be as 'great fun' as any amusement?"

Elfrida now became frightened again, as she saw that *work* was meant by this plain, earnest woman; and she began, helplessly, "Oh, ask some other girl, Miss Priscilla—do!"

"I see I must," said Miss Priscilla. "Well, good-bye; when the circle is fairly started you must join them."

"Yes," said Elfrida.

Miss Priscilla walked down Botsford Main Street longing for the special prayer again. She had purposely drawn upon the sympathy of the girl considered the brightest in the village, and who was habitually good-natured and obliging; and her best chance had failed.

"Where to go next I don't know," she said to herself. "Well,

it looks as if Lottie Flagg were to be the future president of the circle. No harm in trying for it, at any rate."

Lottie was not at home; so Miss Priscilla sat and talked half an hour with the deaf grandmother about her rheumatism, all the other grandchildren at the West, and about the minister who exchanged with their pastor the last Sabbath; until finally Lottie came running in with cheeks all aglow, and swinging her bonnet.

"She wants to see *you*, Lottie," said the grandmother.

Miss Priscilla, forgetting to drop the key in which she had been conversing, commenced in a shrill, unnatural voice,—

"My dear, I want you to help me form a little society among your schoolmates." Then she remembered, and dropped down to her ordinary conversational tone, "Will you?"

"Yes'm," said Lottie, quite impressed, and seating herself on the edge of the haircloth sofa.

Miss Priscilla was enchanted. "My difficulties are over," she said to herself, "so far as getting the leader is concerned. Now to proceed.

"It is this, Lottie; we ladies who belong to the Auxiliary of the Woman's Board of Missions want a little help from the young people, and ——"

"Speak a little louder," said grandmother, hitching her chair forward.

So Miss Priscilla began to scream again, and laid the whole plan before the young girl, who sat listening intently. Then she sat straight, and drew a long breath. "I would like the first meeting at my house," she finished in a glow.

Not a word came in response. Lottie slipped suddenly from her hair-cloth refuge and sped for the door. When safely on the outside, she cried out, "Oh, I can't do it!"

"Can't?" cried Miss Priscilla back again; "that's a bad word, Lottie; don't pray use it."

"Well, I —— can't, repeated Lottie, helplessly yielding to the objectionable word, when she found no other forthcoming. "Please ask some other girl."

"O yes, certainly," said Miss Priscilla, dryly. She got out of her chair, bade the deaf grandmother good-bye, made herself smile over at Lottie, and was soon out on the street again.

"I don't think it makes much difference which way I turn," she said grimly to herself; "there is time this afternoon for one more effort. It might as well be on Mary Ladd as on any one."

And on Mary Ladd it was. She was practicing her music lesson, and she whirled around on the piano-stool when tall Miss Hovey came into the parlor, and did her best to entertain her.

Miss Priscilla did not know anything whatever of music; and harmony on the piano or any instrument impressed her no better than the discordant cries of a cat. But she talked for a good quarter hour on all the musical enthusiasms of the girl before her, meeting her on equal ground, and paving the way for an easy descent to the object of her visit. At last the moment seemed ripe.

"Mary," she said gently, "I have been thinking about all you young girls, and wondering if you understand how we older workers in the church are longing to have you come up and help us."

Mary's eyes did good service, but her lips did not move.

"If you do understand this, Mary," said Miss Hovey, still more gently, "it will rejoice all our hearts." The ground now being right, she cast in her seed, and laid before her youthful auditor the plan for a mission circle.

"What do you think of it, Mary?" she asked pleasantly.

"I don't know," said Mary, playing with her apron.

"Well, are you willing to ask all the girls whom you know in your school to join with you in a little society, and have the first meeting at my house?" asked Miss Priscilla, alluringly.

"I don't know," said Mary again, her fingers forsaking the apron to twist each other.

"O well, if you don't know, you certainly are willing to consider it," said Miss Priscilla, still smiling, but inwardly praying for patience. "I shall expect you with quite a company, Mary; for the young people will be anxious to come if one of their number is willing to help forward the circle. Next Wednesday afternoon, remember, at four o'clock at Maple Cottage. Good-bye, dear."

She was half out the front door, thinking it best to beat a hasty retreat, when Mary jumped from the piano-stool, and gained on her.

"O, Miss Hovey, wait! I don't know,—I can't do it,—ask some other girl, please."

Miss Priscilla walked into the keeping-room, where Miss Melinda was rolling up the last of the mended stockings.

"Is there any tea made, Melindy?" she asked.

Miss Melinda adjusted her spectacles for a good look at her sister. "You look all beat out," she exclaimed. "What have you been doing? Yes; I just slipped the tea-pot on; I'll get you a cup."

Miss Priscilla threw off her shawl and bonnet, and followed her sister into the kitchen.

"Melindy, don't you ask me a single word of this business of mine until I get that cup of tea. I know I shall fall from grace if I open my mouth."

"I'm not in any hurry to know;" said Miss Melinda, pouring out a cupful of the steaming beverage; "you don't look as if you'd been on much but a wild-goose chase. There, drink that as quick as you can; it will take the tired out of your bones." She set the cup down on the table, drew up the tea-pot, and went back to the keeping-room.

"Have I?" queried Miss Priscilla, over her tea. "By the grace of God the Botsford Mission Circle shall yet be."

That evening twenty little white notes went up and down Botsford Main Street and into the cross-roads. They all carried this message:—

MY DEAR YOUNG FRIEND:—

I shall be very glad to see you at Maple Cottage, Wednesday afternoon, January 20th, at 4 o'clock. *Please bring that other girl.*

Cordially yours,

PRISCILLA HOVEY.

Our Work at Home.

ANNUAL MEETING.

REPORTS OF BRANCHES.

THE oldest daughter, the Philadelphia Branch, was represented by its President, Miss Halsey. It had held its own fifteenth birthday, and counted up the entire amount raised during that time as \$25,000. The receipts for 1885 were \$2,416, and they have 32 organizations; but "mission, *anti*-mission and omission Christians" are found among them, as elsewhere.

They acknowledge with gratitude the moral support given to the Branch by the new Secretary of the American Board. Mr. Kincaid, who holds vigorous views in behalf of the female department of the Board.

Miss Stirling, District Secretary of the New Haven Branch, said they had no startling events nor new departures to chronicle. Faithful work among the auxiliaries and steady efforts to inspire the young with a love for missions, had characterized the past twelve months. This was the kind of work which endures, and on which they built their hopes. Their receipts for the year were \$10,866.40. They pay the salaries of 7 missionaries, 22 Bible-

women, and 3 native teachers, besides supporting 13 schools and 81 scholars.

Mrs. Fairbanks, Home Secretary, spoke for the Vermont Branch. She said they always had something new in Vermont—new perplexities and emergencies, fresh deliverances, and added proofs of God's good hand upon them.

There have been some changes in their officers. Mrs. Horace Fairbanks, who for ten years has been the beloved President of the Branch, has felt obliged to resign the position. While accepting her resignation with deep and lasting regret, they are giving sincere and cordial welcome to their new President.

Vermont counts 116 auxiliaries and 102 mission circles in her large family. Their receipts (\$4,500) are a little less than last year; but considering the financial state of the country, they think that never in their history has more consecrated money gone into the treasury than in 1885.

Mrs. Wilkinson, Corresponding Secretary, spoke for the Rhode Island Branch. They feel very rich in having given two of their daughters during the year to the foreign work—Miss Jillson to Smyrna, and Dr. Root to Madura. These new ties are giving the Branch a vital interest in these far-away fields. They are rich, too, though with a great sense of loss, in having lately given a beloved officer, Mrs. William J. King, to the better country, even the heavenly. The number of organized societies remains unchanged, and their receipts were \$3,695.40.

The Maine Branch was represented by Miss Crie, Home Secretary. Notwithstanding the obstacles under which they labor in their state of magnificent distances, good work has been done, and they feel that they certainly have not lost ground. They number 86 auxiliaries and 70 mission circles, and their annual contribution was \$3,600.

The New Hampshire Branch was represented by Mrs. Wallace, Corresponding Secretary. It has been readjusting some forces, and doing some pruning work, during the year, but they close with a gain of eight organizations. They have at present on their roll-call, 100 auxiliaries and 74 mission circles. In some of the latter, the children have themselves sustained prayer-meetings; and the blessing of the Lord has rested upon them.

The contributions have been larger than ever before, and a legacy of \$2,000, in addition, gives their total receipts, \$6,336.14. The choicest fruitage of the year has been the gift of a daughter of their Vice-President, — Miss Ellen M. Blakely, — who has gone to Marash.

Springfield Branch reported through Mrs. Brooks, Correspond-

ing Secretary. The year had no brilliant record of success, but abundant evidence of earnest work and quiet growth. Fifty-three organizations compose their family. Some of these have largely increased their attendance and interest, and, as a natural consequence, their giving. The total receipts for the year were \$8,197.65. They commence the new year resolved to work more earnestly, to give more abundantly, to pray more unceasingly.

The Hartford Branch was represented by Mrs. Burt, Home Secretary. They cannot yet claim that every church in their territory has an organization, but they do feel thankful that so many are being stirred up to good works. There seems to be a steady gain in interest, membership, and receipts. They have 45 auxiliaries, and 36 mission circles, nearly all of them working for Christ and his cause.

The Eastern Connecticut Branch, which reported through its President, Miss Gilman, celebrated its tenth anniversary last June. The record for the last year showed a slight increase in the number of societies and a quickened life in some existing ones. The public meetings continue of unabated interest, but they are asking why so few from their Branch are offering *themselves* for service in the foreign field.

The greetings of the New York Branch were brought by Mrs. Cunningham, Vice-President. Beginning their work ten years ago with a contribution of a thousand dollars, they have in the decade added to it several tens of thousands; and better than the money has been the offering of New York's consecrated daughters. The principal gain last year was in the direction of mission circles. The appointment of an officer to work especially for the children had proved a success.

The Worcester County Branch was represented by Mrs. Kimball, Home Secretary. They have just closed their tenth year, and the record for the decade has been one of steady increase in contributions and a deeper and more widespread interest in the work. The contributions for 1885 were a little larger than ever before, amounting to \$4,376.99.

Miss Hodges, delegate, reported advance in the Franklin County Branch, especially among young ladies and children, and more than usual interest in the meetings. The Branch misses the labors of many earnest members who have "taken up work on the other side."

The Hampshire County Branch was represented by Miss Tyler, Recording Secretary. They hold quarterly meetings, and their third annual rally of Mission Circles, last October, was a most interesting occasion. The reports of both mission circles and

auxiliaries show in most cases that they are alive and growing.

Mrs. Thayer, Recording Secretary, of the Norfolk and Pilgrim Branch, said they had found out that nothing was so enlarging to heart-interest as a little hard work. They had found out this secret by steady practice, and they meant to keep right on. The children's zeal does not flag, the young ladies are prompt to respond to extra calls, and the busy women count it their business to attend to the Lord's work with diligence.

On the whole the year has been marked above others in interest. They have 44 societies, and support 2 missionaries, 3 Bible-women, 7 scholars, and 3 village-schools.

The greetings from the Andover and Woburn Branch were brought by its treasurer, Miss Wilder. So many officers have been changed in the union of these two organizations, that it has seemed like a new work. The unifying process is still going on, but will soon be complete. The receipts have been about \$2,700.

The Berkshire Branch reported through Mrs. Giddings, its President. While they thank God and take courage because of temporal prosperity, they do not fail to recognize the blessings that are theirs through the prayers of some of the Lord's hidden ones. Two new auxiliaries, formed during the year, make their present number of organizations 40. The contributions amounted to \$2,778.96, which was more than the year before. A thank-offering service was a special feature of their October meeting, which, in its earnest tone, seemed an "after-glow" to the great meeting of the American Board in Boston.

Mrs. Ploubet, Home Secretary of the Middlesex Branch, said they were in doubt whether the year showed a record of gain or loss. The statement made last year, that they had an organization in every church, must be taken back, as the auxiliary last formed had died. Some mission circles, too, had suspended meetings, and from some they had received no report. All this was on the side of loss; but to encourage them, many of the societies show a warm, living interest, and the contributions, which they feared would fall behind, have come up to the average of other years. They are praying for a deeper love to Christ, and an enthusiasm born of the indwelling Spirit.

Mrs. Burnham, Secretary of the Essex South Branch, reported an unusually prosperous year. Hearts and purses had felt a new impulse, and their receipts had been the largest in their history—\$2,492.24. A thank-offering at the November meeting amounted to over \$400. Their aim is progress, till there shall be an organization in every church in their territory.

Suffolk Branch reported through Mrs. Holmes, its recording Secretary. Their present organizations are 101, and many signs of growth show that it is a live branch of the missionary tree.

A plan was inaugurated last year for sending visitors to each auxiliary within their limits. These visitors have entered heartily into the work, and the plan seems to promise success. In the foreign field they are supporting 17 missionaries, 18 boarding and day schools, and 8 Bible-women. The receipts for the year were \$12,244.39.

The Essex North Branch was represented by its President, Miss Brown. She said there yet remained much land with them to be possessed, but they had added two to their roll of auxiliaries and mission circles, making now 24. Their receipts, too, showed a steady increase, being \$1,340.10 for the year just closed.

The Old Colony Branch was represented by Miss Capron, Corresponding Secretary. They number twenty-four organizations, and have recently appointed a Superintendent of Mission Circles. From this new office they hope for an increased number of circles. Their receipts (\$1,866.16) show a slight increase over last year.

They are supporting three missionaries, a Bible-woman in Ceylon, a native teacher, a school in India, and scholarships in Turkey.

The Barnstable Branch reported through its Secretary, Mrs. Dodge. It is now in the third year of its history, and some of the auxiliaries are bravely holding their own in the face of discouragements, while others are making steady advance. They are making themselves felt as a power in the churches, helping to sustain the monthly concerts, and creating an interest in missionary work.

A special feature of their annual meeting was the thank-offering service. The offerings were accompanied by a verse, and inclosed in envelopes. The amount thus raised was over \$100.

The Middlesex Conference Association reported through Mrs. Tweed, its President. She said this smallest bough of all was considering whether it could grow to be a Branch. They have but nineteen churches in their territory, but their receipts are growing; for whereas five years ago they gave but \$19, last year their contributions were \$234.

WORK OF THE WOMAN'S BOARDS.

[Condensed from an Address delivered at Providence before the Woman's Board, by Rev. N. G. Clark, Senior Foreign Secretary of the American Board.]

THE organization of Woman's Boards marks an epoch in foreign mission work. It is the characteristic feature of missionary

history during the last twenty-five years, whether we consider the work abroad or at home. The Christian women who prayerfully and thoughtfully organized this Board, the first of its kind, planned more wisely than they knew. Other Boards followed the example set, both in our own and in other donominations, in this country and in Great Britain. The set time had come for a great enlargement of efforts for women by women the world over. Through the agency of Woman's Boards, work for women in the different missions in charge of the American Board has increased five fold during the last quarter of a century. The number of unmarried women from this country has gone up from twenty-one to over a hundred, and the number of pupils in boarding-schools had advanced in like proportion, till at the present time there are not less than forty such boarding-schools attended by nearly 2,000 pupils. Who shall estimate the Christian influence daily and hourly exerted on the life and character of these pupils, separated as they are from the ignorance and degradation of their homes? Is it strange that special blessing from above attends labors in their behalf, and that many of them are prepared to become teachers of others, till tens of thousands of girls and women in twenty different mission fields have heard the story of the cross, and gained the first impulses to the better social life? Add to all this the personal labors of so many devoted missionaries, married as well as single, aided by native Bible-women in visiting from village to village and from house to house, and we may have some conception of the great work that is being accomplished for the cause of Christ through the agency of the Woman's Boards.

But the work at home is of no less moment. Looking at the question on the financial side alone, the work of the different Woman's Boards has been of greatest value. Exclusive of the two great bequests, the receipts into the Treasury of the American Board, from donations and legacies, for the last ten years were between four and five hundred thousand dollars in excess of the previous decade. This difference was due to the Woman's Boards. From them was received over one million dollars. Admitting that one third or even one half of this sum would have come into the Treasury of the American Board had there been no such organizations, and it is still true that the advance in the aggregate receipts for the last ten years was due to the Woman's Boards. In view, then, of these financial results, does it not become us, the representatives of the American Board, to offer our heartiest Christian salutations to the devoted Christian women who have been our fellow-laborers and fellow-helpers unto the kingdom of God?

How much of vigorous effort, of self-denying labor on the

part of thousands, not to say tens of thousands of Christian women in this country, all the way from the Aroostook to the Golden Gate, is represented in this aggregate of over one million dollars received into the treasury for Woman's work during the last ten years. Looking at the financial result, there is reason for gratitude and hope.

The methods pursued by the different Boards are different in some respects, but it is believed that all are characterized by singular prudence and economy,—an economy largely due to the unselfish devotion and unpaid services of so many Christian women in all parts of the land. The first organization of the Woman's Board, whose headquarters are at Boston, began on the plan of collecting funds before making any appropriations. Following up this method to the present time, they collect during one year for the expenses of the next. The sums thus collected are turned over to the treasury of the American Board, and held in deposit till they shall be wanted to meet appropriations at the close of the year. The use of these deposits more than offsets the expenses for rent of the rooms occupied at the Congregational House. The Woman's Board has been favored also by quite a large sum given as a permanent fund. By the income of this fund and by the profits made on its publications, it is enabled to meet all its current expenses and something over, so that every dollar given to it by donation or legacy goes to be expended on the foreign field. The other Boards follow the example of the American Board in making appropriations in advance for as much work as they venture to assume.

There are other points worthy of special consideration. First, the influence on missionaries abroad of the hearty sympathy of their sisters here at home. The frequent letters, the words of cheer and of hope that are sent to these lone laborers abroad, and, more than all, prayers offered in their behalf, and in behalf of those for whom they labor, constitute no small factor in the grand results that are being realized in woman's work.

Our Christian women have not yet come to realize the power of prayer as a spiritual agency to secure the divine blessing on mission-ground. Through their sympathies and prayers they may be laborers together with missionaries, and feel that they have part in every result accomplished to the praise of our Lord.

Another point to which it seems proper to refer is the influence exerted by the women connected with these Woman's Boards in maintaining an interest in foreign missions throughout the country. In the stress and competitions of business, in the multiplicity of objects of benevolence pressing their claims on every hand for the many varieties of mission-work here at home, there would be less hope of keeping alive a genuine foreign missionary interest were it not for the influence of tens of thousands of Christian mothers, wives, and sisters scattered all through the land. Is it too much to say, that not only is the pecuniary advance in the receipts for foreign missions largely due to the self-sacrificing efforts of our Christian women, but even the continued and growing interest in the work itself?

WOMAN'S BOARD OF MISSIONS.

Receipts from Jan. 18 to Feb. 18, 1886.

MISS EMMA CARRUTH, TREASURER.

MAINE.

<i>Maine Branch.</i> —Mrs. W. S. Dana, Treas. Andover, Aux., \$5; Portland, Aux., Ladies of Bethel Ch., \$16.66; Ocean Pebbles, \$16.31; State St. Ch., A Friend, \$5.	
<i>Norridgewock.</i> —Cong. S. S.,	\$42 97
<i>Norway.</i> —Miss E. A. Millett,	20 00
	1 00
Total,	\$63 97

NEW HAMPSHIRE.

<i>New Hampshire Branch.</i> —Miss A. E. McIntire, Treas. Concord, Aux., \$25; North Ch., \$60; Derry, First Cong. Ch., Aux., \$40; East Sullivan, Mrs. N. A. Ellis, \$5; Mrs. R. E. Davis, \$1; Hanover, Aux., \$54; Newport, Ladies of Cong. Ch., \$49.90; Plainfield, Miss M. M. Stevens, const. L. M. Mrs. David Burnap, \$25; Tilton, Aux., \$16.50; West Lebanon, Aux., \$14.	
<i>Gilsum.</i> —A Friend,	\$290 40
<i>New Market.</i> —A Friend,	40
	40
Total,	\$291 20

VERMONT.

<i>Vermont Branch.</i> —Mrs. T. M. Howard, Treas. Benson, Aux., \$25; Burlington, Aux., const. L. M. Mrs. C. K. P. Spencer, \$25; Chelsea, Y. P. M. C., \$20; Dorset, Aux., prev. contri. const. L. M's Mrs. Lavinia Sykes, Mrs. Charles B. Kent, \$38.25; Orwell, Aux., const. L. M's Mrs. John Hall, Mrs. Vilroy Blackman, Mrs. E. M. Bottum, \$76.46; Post Mills, Aux., \$10; Randolph, Helping Hands, \$10; Royalton, Aux., of wh. \$5, by Miss Susa Harvey, \$12; Rutland, Aux., \$53.48; Sudbury, Mrs. J. A. Hawkins, \$1; Swanton, Aux., \$5; St. Albans, Aux., \$7 25; Townshend, Aux. and S. S., \$29; Vergennes, Aux., C. S., \$10; Thetford, Aux., \$1.50. Ex., \$51.	
<i>Waitsfield.</i> —Lydia A. Bigelow,	\$272 94
	5 00
Total,	\$277 94

MASSACHUSETTS.

<i>Andover and Woburn Branch.</i> —Miss E. F. Wilder, Treas. Bedford, Aux., \$15; Chelmsford, Aux., \$17; Lexington, Aux., const. L. M. Mrs. F. E. Tufts, \$25; Melrose, Aux., \$16; Wrentham, Ladies' Miss'y Soc'y, First Parish Ch., \$30; Reading, Aux., \$25.	
<i>Ayer.</i> —Cong. S. S.,	\$128 00
	2 40
<i>Berkshire Branch.</i> —Mrs. S. N. Russell, Treas. Pittsfield, First Ch. Aux., \$21.33; South Ch., Aux., \$9.05; Hinsdale, Mountain Hill, \$70.	
<i>Beverly.</i> —A Friend,	100 38
<i>Blackinton.</i> —Aux.,	20
<i>Bradford.</i> —S. S.,	42 11
	40 00
<i>Essex South Co. Branch.</i> —Miss S. W. Clark, Treas. Lynn, First Ch. Aux., \$14; Central Ch. Aux., const. L. M. Miss Ellen L. Aldrich, \$25; Salem, South Ch. Aux., Mrs. Bertram, \$100.	
	139 00
<i>Franklin Co. Branch.</i> —Miss L. A. Sparhawk, Treas. Buckland, Aux., \$12; South Deerfield, Aux., \$14.25; Greenfield, Aux., \$15.22.	
	41 47
<i>Hampshire Co. Branch.</i> —Miss I. G. Clarke, Treas. Amherst, Aux., of wh. \$200 const. L. M's Mrs. Abby R. Neill, Mrs. Harriet M. Hunt, \$242.41, Young Ladies' Soc'y, of wh. \$100 const. L. M. Miss Hattie Davis, \$110.36, Ruby Harding M. C., \$20; Easthampton, Aux., of wh. \$100 const. L. M. Mrs. Maria G. Seelye, \$138.31; Northampton, Aux., Edwards Ch. div., \$35, Gordon Hall M. B., \$5; Williamsburg, Aux., \$26.60.	
	577 68
<i>Hardwick.</i> —First Calvinistic Ch.,	
	4 11
<i>Harvard.</i> —M. C.,	7 50
<i>Huntington.</i> —First Ch.,	8 00
<i>Lowell.</i> —Pawtucket Ch., \$5, Golden Rule Soc'y, \$10;	
	15 00
<i>Middlesex Branch.</i> —Mrs. E. H. Warren, Treas. Marlboro, M. C., prev. contri. const. L. M's, Mrs. E. F. Johnson, Miss Lillian Goodale, \$48.50; Holliston, Aux., \$40; Open Hands, \$100; Natick, Aux., \$17.25;	

Concord, Aux., \$32, S. S. Mis-	
s'y Asso., \$40,	\$277 75
Montague.— Cong. Ch.,	1 00
Norfolk and Pilgrim Branch.	
— Mrs. F. Shaw, Treas. Ab-	
ington, Aux., \$22.24; North	
Abington, Aux., \$5; Cohas-	
set, Sea-Side Workers, \$17;	
Holbrook, Little Lights, \$25;	
Plymouth, Aux., \$90,	159 24
Northfield.— Trinity Cong. Ch.,	5 00
North Dana.— A Friend,	40
Old Colony Branch.— Miss F. J.	
Rummels, Treas. Fall River,	
W. F. Miss'y Soc'y, \$330;	
Willing Helpers, \$60; Attle-	
boro, Aux., \$5,	395 00
Springfield Branch.— Miss H.	
T. Buckingham, Treas. Lud-	
low Mills, \$9; Springfield,	
First Ch., Mrs. E. Brewer	
Smith, const. L. M's Miss	
Mary A. Ellis, Miss Jane A.	
Holt, Mrs. Ellen B. Derby,	
Mrs. Samuel R. Newell, \$100,	
South Ch., Wide-Awakes, \$12,	
Junior Aux., \$1, Olivet Ch.,	
\$5.08; Wilbraham, Willing	
Workers, \$30,	157 08
Suffolk Branch.— Miss Myra B.	
Child, Treas. Boston, Central	
Ch., Aux., \$31, M. C., \$16.13,	
Berkeley St. Ch., Sunbeam	
M. C., \$13, Old South Ch.	
Aux., \$10, Mt. Vernon Ch.	
Aux., by Mrs. E. K. Alden,	
const. L. M. Mrs. Joseph W.	
Howes, \$25, Bartlett Band,	
\$27, Trinity Ch., Mrs. F. W.	
Carruth, \$20; South Boston,	
Phillips Ch. Aux., of wh. \$25	
by Mrs. Alvan Simonds,	
const. L. M. Miss Ella M.	
Lyons, \$260; Roxbury, Im-	
manuel Ch. Aux., \$23, High-	
land Ch. Aux., Mrs. S. N.	
Stockwell, const. L. M. Mrs.	
Anna M. Campbell, \$25, Eliot	
Ch. Aux., \$10.40; Chelsea,	
Third Ch. Aux., \$35; Cam-	
bridgeport, Ladies' Miss'y	
Soc'y, Pilgrim Ch., \$28.64,	
Junior Aux., \$76.29; Winter	
Hill, Earnest Workers, \$20;	
Watertown, Aux., Mrs. Mitch-	
ell, \$5; Brighton, Y. L. M.	
C., \$30, Cong. S. S., \$30; Wal-	
tham, Aux., const. L. M's	
Mrs. Sarah Frances Taft, Mrs.	
Melvina Maria Morse, \$50;	
Dedham, Asylum Dime	
Soc'y, \$2.40; Walpole, Aux.,	
\$2.50; Wellesley Hills, Aux.,	
\$16.20; Foxboro, Aux., \$40; Y.	
P. M. C., \$20,	816 56
Wellesley.— P. D. Cowan, const.	
L. M. Miss Eleanor Rhea	
Cowan,	25 00
West Warren.— Mrs. E. G.	
Carter,	4 40

Wilmington.— Two Friends,	\$5 00
Worcester Co. Branch.— Mrs.	
C. A. Lincoln, Treas. Clin-	
ton, Aux., \$40; Ware, Aux.,	
\$6.45; Warren, Aux., \$11;	
Southbridge, Aux., \$10;	
Brookside, M. C., \$40; Mil-	
ford, Aux., Thank-off., \$75;	
Westboro, Aux., \$35; Charl-	
ton, Aux., \$10,	227 45
Total,	\$3,179 73

LEGACY.

Legacy of Mrs. Eliza W. Jenks,	
Hopkinton,	\$33 67

RHODE ISLAND.

Rhode Island Branch.— Miss	
A. T. White, Treas. Slaters-	
ville, Aux., \$20; Newport,	
Aux., \$250.68, United Ch. S.	
S., \$249.32; Pawtucket, Aux.,	
of wh. \$25 by Mrs. E. C. E.	
Davis, const. L. M. Mrs.	
Addie A. Townsend, \$25, by	
Mrs. L. B. Goff, const. L. M.	
Miss Mary F. McGregor, \$25,	
by Mrs. H. N. Blodgett, const.	
L. M. Miss Ruth Dana Blod-	
gett, \$200; Union Ch., Provi-	
dence, \$5, Central Ch., by	
Mrs. H. N. Lathrop, const. L.	
M. Miss Anna A. Thompson,	
\$25,	\$750 00
Total,	\$750 00

CONNECTICUT.

Bozrah.— Aux.,	\$20 00
Eastern Conn. Branch.— Miss	
M. I. Lockwood, Treas.	
Wauregan, Aux., \$20; Nor-	
wich, Park Ch. Aux., const.	
L. M's Mrs. E. T. Clapp, Miss	
Carrie Holden, \$50; Central,	
Village, Aux., \$5; Ledyard	
Newell Soc'y, \$5.45; Stoning-	
ton, First Ch., Agreement	
Hill Soc'y, \$10;	90 45
Hartford Branch.— Miss A.	
Morris, Treas. Bristol, M. C.,	
\$38.50; Buckingham, M. C.,	
\$5; Hartford, Mem. of Asy-	
lum Hill Ch., const. L. M.	
Miss Mary L. Brainard, \$25;	
Centre Ch. M. C., \$52, Pearl	
St. Ch. Aux., of wh. \$75	
const. L. M's Mrs. F. B.	
Bridgman, Mrs. F. P. Carter,	
Mrs. H. R. Morley, \$25 by	
Mrs. Geo. E. Sanburne, const.	
self L. M., \$151.50, Miss L. M.	
Prior, \$10; Rockville, Aux.,	
\$36; Little Helpers, \$10;	
Rocky Hill, Cong. Ch., \$1;	
Simsbury, Aux., \$6; Wap-	

ping, Willing Workers, \$14;	
Wethersfield, Junior Aux.,	
\$30; Windsor Locks, Aux.,	
\$60.	\$439 00
<i>New Haven Branch.</i> —Miss J.	
Twining, Treas. Bethlehem,	
Aux., \$28.50; Bridgeport,	
Aux., of wh., \$25 by Mrs. A.	
S. Barnes, of New York, const.	
self L. M., \$25, by Mr. Alex-	
ander Hawley, const. L. M.,	
Mrs. Geo. S. Waller, \$136.91,	
South Ch. M. C., \$25, Park	
St. Ch. M. C., \$30, North Ch.,	
Cheerful Workers, \$15; Can-	
naan, Y. L. M. C., \$10; East	
Haddam, Phoenix Band, \$2;	
East Haven, Aux. const. L.	
M. Mrs. D. J. Clark, \$25;	
Mission Workers, \$20; Essex,	
Whatsoever Band, \$5; Kill-	
ingworth, Aux., of wh. \$25	
const. L. M. Mrs. Hosmer	
Kelsey, \$29; Middletown,	
First Ch. Aux., of wh. \$15	
by Mr. and Mrs. T. G.	
Mather, with prev. contri.,	
const. L. M. Miss Fannie A.	
Russell, \$22; New Britain,	
Centre Ch. Aux., \$126.50, Pri-	
mary Dept. S. S., \$30; New	
Haven, College St. Ch. Aux.,	
\$3, Cheerful Givers, \$5, Y. P.	
Miss'y Soc'y, \$40, Daven-	
port Ch. M. C., \$35, Dwight	
Place, Fairbank M. C., \$25;	
Fair Haven, First Ch. Aux.,	
\$26, Humphrey St. Ch. Aux.,	
Mrs. Mary De Val, const. L.	
M. Miss C. M. Richards, \$25,	
United Ch. Aux., \$25, Mrs.	
Cady's School, Mite-boxes,	
\$11.77; Yale College Ch. Aux.,	
\$135; North Branford, Aux.,	
\$30; Stratford, Aux., \$55,	
Alpha Band, \$25; Torrington,	
Third Ch., of wh. \$25	
const. L. M. Mrs. S. A. Welch,	
\$44; Westville, Y. L. M. C.,	
\$40,	1,029 68
<i>Waterbury.</i> —Sunshine Circle,	5 00
<i>Westport.</i> —Friends,	4 00
Total,	\$1,588 13

NEW YORK.

<i>New York State Branch.</i> —Mrs.	
G. H. Norton, Treas. Mora-	
via, Aux., \$6.40; Orient, Aux.,	
\$40; Homer, Mrs. B. W.	
Payne, \$5,	\$51 40
<i>Brooklyn.</i> —Mrs. J. L. Par-	
tridge,	10 00
<i>Buffalo.</i> —Mrs. O. F. Swift,	
const. self L. M.,	25 00
<i>Kinderhook.</i> —A Friend,	20
<i>Lake Grove, L. I.</i> —Mrs. F. A.	
Sanders,	1 00

<i>Miller's Place, L. I.</i> —Mrs. T. N.	
Benedict,	\$4 00
<i>Riverhead.</i> —S. T.,	5 00
<i>Rochester.</i> —Plymouth Ch., In-	
fant Dept., S. S., \$2, M. B., \$1,	3 00
Total,	\$99 60

NEW JERSEY.

<i>Princeton.</i> —Mrs. Fred Vinton,	\$3 20
Total,	\$3 20

PENNSYLVANIA.

<i>Stevensville.</i> —A Friend,	\$15 00
Total,	\$15 00

PHILADELPHIA BRANCH.

Miss E. Flavell, Treas. Balti-	
more, Aux., \$50.30, Coll. at	
Annual Meeting, \$23.25;	
<i>Philadelphia</i> , Young Ladies'	
Miss'y Soc'y, \$30; <i>Virginia</i> ,	
Falls Ch., Aux., \$5; <i>New Jer-</i>	
<i>sey</i> , Ladies of Stanley, \$2.50;	
Westfield, Coll., \$10.02; Plain-	
field, Aux., \$10; <i>D. C.</i> , Wash-	
ington, Aux., \$15.35; Ex., \$82,	\$94 42
Total,	\$94 42

ALABAMA.

<i>Selma.</i> —Helping Hands, \$24;	
Cong. Ch. and S. S., \$6,	\$30 00
Total,	\$30 00

DAKOTA.

<i>Sanborn.</i> —Mrs. J. W. Donald-	
son,	\$1 00
Total,	\$1 00

CALIFORNIA.

<i>Santa Barbara.</i> —Mrs. M. E.	
Cummings,	\$10 00
Total,	\$10 00

TEXAS.

<i>San Antonio.</i> —A Friend,	\$ 40
Total,	\$ 40

General Funds,	\$6,404 59
Weekly Pledge,	7 55
Leaflets,	92 38
Legacy,	33 67
Total,	\$6,538 19

MISS HARRIET W. MAY,
Assistant Treasurer.

Board of the Interior.

MICRONESIA.

MISS CATHCART'S JOURNAL.

KUSAIE, Nov. 8, 1884.

ON Wednesday, Dr. Pease and family went on board the "Jennie Walker," soon after noon. We are to occupy Dr. Pease's house this year, and the cottages will remain empty. It was impossible for the vessel to sail that day, owing to the wind and sun, and all day Thursday they lay at anchor nearly three miles away.

Friday morning there came "Sail ho!" and we found a schooner was approaching; being quite sure it was from the Marshall Islands, I looked for mail. There were no letters, but we had very encouraging reports from Ailinlaplap and Jaluij. The books left with the teachers last year are gone, and many more are needed. I shall send some by this vessel. It is much easier to look forward to these coming months of work and responsibility, before any family can come to our relief, when we can know that God's manifest blessing rests on our work, and when there is such great need of the Testament, which will be printed while Dr. Pease is in the home land. Those are the very islands that our two new teachers are going to, and the news was cheering to them, as well as to those left in the school.

And this is how we are left: Miss Palmer is to take charge of the housekeeping; Kefwas is to remain, to help with the cooking, cleaning, and general housework; Na is to wash and iron; while Kenia is to come and sweep on Saturdays. Mrs. Pease has trained all three for the past three years, and we feel that we are much favored in having so good help.

They are all among our best day-scholars, and use English very well, so Miss Palmer can talk with them without an interpreter, and they will be able to help her in that respect when she is trading with other Kusaians, for she is also going to buy our native food.

Miss Palmer will teach most of the classes in English. I shall teach natives, with the help of some of the best scholars, who will teach some classes. Out of school I shall have charge of family worship with the school, Sabbath-school, etc. The most advanced scholars will take turns preaching on Sabbath.

I shall look after the food and tables for the scholars and the

farm-work. The many little things that come up daily we shall either of us do as we have strength and time. We know we have not of ourselves the needed strength and wisdom for the work, but we have One to help who has said, "I will never leave thee nor forsake thee," and we believe he will supply our need, and bless the work of our hands; and then, too, we feel sure we shall be helped by many prayers from Christian friends.

SCARCITY OF FOOD.

Dec. 16th.—Such a time as we have to feed the scholars! Our foreign supplies for them did not come this year; bread-fruit is not ripe yet; there is a scarcity of taro; the Kusaians have to go to the mountains for wild yams, and it takes nearly all day to find food enough. As a consequence we don't have much native food. Now we have left only four demijohns of rice (one hundred and thirty pounds) and one tin of bread. The new supplies cannot be expected for more than six months, and we must not get all out now; so we have stopped using rice and hard bread, and this week have been using bean soup and graham bread from our own supplies, for the school. I think that if we can tide over the next three weeks, bread-fruit will be ripe, and we shall be all right till May, when there will be no bread-fruit for several weeks. We have one nice field of taro growing, and the boys work every afternoon planting another.

Simiter, one of the highest chiefs on this island, and a good Christian native, died from heart disease this week.

NEW-YEAR'S DAY.

Jan. 3d, 1885.—Although our friends are not with us, and although we cannot send them the season's greetings, from our hearts there arise many wishes for "A Happy New Year" to them, and the prayer that Heaven's richest blessing may be theirs.

A schooner came here to trade last week, and we bought a little hard bread and some rice. The rice is very "buggy," and old; but we have had it spread in the sunshine, and I think it will help us on till bread-fruit season, all right.

As it has been bright and fair all the week, we decided to have a picnic on New Year's; so Mr. and Mrs. Walkup and their people, we and our people, took the canoes and were off. We sailed two or three miles to where we could find a nice, cozy nook, where the boys helped spread cocoanut leaves under the trees for a green carpet, when we rested and spread our dinner while they went off after crabs; which, when they had found a sufficient number, they built fires in the sand and cooked. These,

with fresh young cocoanuts, made their picnic. Thus we passed a pleasant day, and felt the stronger for it. It is the first time for more than a year that we have been away from the station-grounds for recreation.

THE WEEK OF PRAYER.

We think of friends very often during this week of united prayer, and think you will be glad to know how we remember the season.

We know not what things you are praying for, and if we did it would be impossible for our people to comprehend them all; so Dr. Walkup and his school, we and ours, Rev. Likiak Sa and the Kusaians, are united on subjects which we chose and arranged as best to meet the need of these people. Our school gathers in the morning, and spends an hour in a short session of prayer and a Bible-reading. Then in the evening, instead of our regular evening worship, they repeat the portions of Scripture dwelt upon in the morning, and we unite in a short season of prayer. I think I never enjoyed a "Week of Prayer" so much,—probably because I have studied the subjects so carefully from the Bible in preparation,—and my heart yearns for these people, that the Holy Spirit may be with us and bless each heart.

CHINA.

THE FOOCHOW GIRLS' SCHOOL.

BY MISS NEWTON.

WE do not quite like the name "College." It is simply a translation of the Chinese characters on the house, and is more descriptive of what we hope it will be in the future, than of what it is at present.

The dwelling-house is in front, and only separated from the school by a narrow hall above and below,—a sort of health preserver. We are closely surrounded by a high wall, except one little corner. A low building, connected with the main building by a covered passage-way, contains the kitchen and dining-room. There is a basement under the corner of the house, where the children can play in rainy weather, and in the yard outside are their swings and see-saw. The dormitories are small, but far better than most of the girls are accustomed to at home. I like this arrangement much better than where a large number sleep in one room, as it makes them more quiet, and more careful to keep their rooms in order, to say nothing of its healthfulness. The largest of these rooms can, if we are crowded, contain four

beds, but usually has only two, each for two girls; the smallest rooms are just large enough for one. The furniture is very simple,—a closet within which each girl in the room has a place, hooks for hanging clothing, a small table, one or two plain chairs or stools, and the beds, which are very simple. Boards are laid across two long benches, one at the head and the other at the foot; over the boards is placed a piece of straw matting, on which they sleep, and the covering is made like a big bag of coarse blue cloth. This is sufficient for summer, and in winter a thick cotton bed is slipped into the big bag, under which they snugly tuck themselves away, often covering their faces, if allowed to do so. In winter, too, they have some straw put under the matting, which makes it warmer. The pillows are some like a round stick of wood, nearly a foot long, and covered with red leather. They rest the back of the neck on the pillow, instead of the head. Over the bedroom doors are ventilators, which the girls are forbidden ever to close without permission, and I regard it as one of the signs of progress that they begin to appreciate fresh air.

Perhaps you would like to go into the dining-room. Let us choose the morning hour—7.15. The large bell strikes to give warning, the small bell rings, and the girls assemble in the school-room and take their seats. This is one of the cares which Miss Garretson takes this year, so she will introduce you to them. When she enters the room they rise and give their morning salutation: “Is it well with you? Is it peace?” Then at the sound of the bell they rise, fall into line, and pass out to the dining-room, where she waits to sing the morning blessing with them. The hot rice is already served in bowls, the prepared vegetables, beef, or fish, and condiments are placed in the center of the tables, and very soon the chop-sticks are busy. We do not eat in the same room with them, but I have learned to use chop-sticks, and occasionally, to their great delight, accept an invitation to their table.

Sometimes we are invited to eat in some of the native families, and I am getting to quite enjoy some of their dishes. A nicely-cooked Chinese feast, including birds’-nest soup, starks’ fins, ducks’ tongues, bamboo sprouts, etc., is something not to be despised. But perhaps you ask why we do not try to civilize the girls, by teaching them to use knives and forks, napkins, table-cloths, sheets and pillow-cases. We do not want to Americanize them, and we have to be very careful, as it is, not to raise them so far above their own people as to make them unhappy when they go back to their homes. Our house is built of a coarse kind of burned brick, laid with mud, and plastered on the outside. It looks well, but is not very durable; the plaster falls off easily, and the wood is soft, and decays quickly.

SPIRITUAL CONDITION.

Of the twenty-nine in school last term only five are church-members, though I hope a number more are Christians. Several have expressed their interest, and desire to make a profession of their faith; but it has seemed better for them to wait, as I did not quite feel sure of them. It is so easy for a Chinese to copy anything, that there is special danger of their copying outward forms of a Christian life while strangers to its vital power, and when they leave us, as readily copy that by which they are next surrounded. They are not free to talk of their heart-experiences; but I am encouraged. The five older girls, the first class, now take turns in conducting the Tuesday evening prayer-meeting, and do it well; their prayers and remarks are short and pointed. The last meeting before vacation we made an experience meeting, and a good number bore testimony or expressed their personal interest. There is a lack of the earnestness in working for others that I want to see as proof of whole-souled consecration, but perhaps I am too impatient to see at once the perfected fruit. I do feel very keenly the need of the Spirit's power in my own heart and in theirs, to do the work I cannot.

 INDIA.

BIBLE-WOMEN OF THE AHMEDNAGAR MISSION.

ALL the Bible-women came together last month, and we enjoyed the occasion. It was one of more than usual interest. This was owing, in part, to the instructive lesson which was the last half of St. John's Gospel, beginning with the eleventh chapter, and the third of Colossians to repeat. But it was the absence of two dear faces which gave special tenderness of feeling to all that was said and done. They were not Bible-women whom we missed, but those who had loved these gatherings, and delighted to join us. One was the wife of the former pastor of the church, Rev. R. V. Modak; we all knew her as Ramkarbai. She was always present, and sat with open Bible during the examination, now and again suggesting a question, and then listening to the reports with interest, and was ready with words of encouragement at the close when opportunity was given. She used to enjoy the social "Tea" with a large company of women afterward, and her presence formed one of the most attractive features of the occasion. This is not the place in which to speak of that dear sister, and of all we have lost in her removal from us. The whole Christian community is afflicted, and mourns for her.

The other missing one was a young woman whose name was Rubybai. After her marriage and removal to a village, some three years since, she allied herself with the volunteer workers at once, doing what she could with not very firm health, preparing the Bible lessons, and coming to meet with the Bible-women. Her bright, eager face, the sweet tones of her voice, and her pleasant, winning ways will never be forgotten. Tears came so fast at the mention of the names of these beloved ones, that it seemed for awhile as if we could hardly go on with our exercises. But we were obliged to make the effort. There were nineteen Bible-women present,—twelve from the Ahmednagar district, six from Sirur, under care of Mrs. Winsor, and one from Sholapur, whom Mrs. Harding superintends. Besides those, twenty-six women had prepared the Bible lesson, among whom were several volunteer workers.

There was less of incident in the reports of the afternoon than we sometimes have, but a hopeful spirit was manifest. Kasubai, of Dedgaw, has no associate yet, but the pastor's wife accompanies her on her visits among the villages. She told, with a good deal of animation, of a rather long trip they took among some villages not often visited, and how the women begged them to come again soon. But they cannot take such trips very often, as they have no conveyance. At that time they had managed to secure a small pony, which carried their bundles, and gave them an occasional rest. Kasubai shows no lack of interest in her work, and has the blessing of good health. Dhrupatabai, of Wadale, has a young woman, by the name of Dayabai, associated with her now, the wife of a teacher residing there. She is a nice person, and will do all her strength allows, but she is not so strong as we could wish one to be for the long walks they need to take. Evidently the women of those seven or eight villages are becoming quite familiar with Scripture truths. Here and there one becomes a Christian, but there is no general movement toward Christianity among them yet.

Sagunabai and Dhrupatabai, of Rahuri, speak of many interested ones in villages around, who seem just waiting, lacking the courage to come out and be separate. We trust their work will receive a new impulse when Mrs. Ballantine, of Rahuri, shall be there to superintend it. She is supposed to be already on her way. Vithabai and Bhagubai, of Kolgaw, see occasional fruit of their efforts in some of the women who are *under influence*. Two have recently accepted of Christ, and been received into the church, and there are abundant opportunities in the surrounding villages and hamlets,

as well as in Kolgaw itself, to speak the word. There is no flagging of interest on the part of these two women.

In the city of Ahmednagar, Gangabai and Kambai, who has taken Subabai's place, have kept steadily at work. There are a number of women in whom they are specially interested, and for whom they frequently ask prayer in our daily meetings. One of them came to our all-day meeting last month, much to our surprise. These women have been to the villages around a number of times lately. They would go often, but are not able to walk so far, and we have no means of supplying them with a conveyance.

Kakhamabai has not been away from Nagar much, on account of her young baby, but she and her associate, Kniabai, who is supported by an English society, have wrought faithfully among many classes, especially the weavers. They also assist me in the prayer-meetings which are held in the weavers' schoolhouse. There are four hamlets about the city, which the four Bible-women frequently visit. There was nothing stirring in any of the reports, and we, and the Bible-women, too, have to trust that their labors "are not in vain in the Lord." There is another Bible-woman, supported by an English society, living in a village about ten miles from Ahmednagar.

After such a meeting they return to their villages, feeling that they have each other's sympathy and prayers, and it helps them. Their Bible lesson for next April is the first ten chapters of Joshua and the last of Revelations, to be learned by heart. The Bible-women and others have often asked to send their kindest salaams to those who provide the means which allows them to give themselves to their work, and they earnestly desire their prayers that God may crown their labors with success.

M. E. BISSELL.

FOREIGN NOTES.

Miss Mary E. Brooks has, at present, charge of the school for Greek girls at Pera, near Constantinople.

A cheery letter from Miss Jennie E. Chapin announces her safe arrival in Peking, and her enjoyment of the Thanksgiving service at the United States Legation.

The English Government of Natal gives fresh proof of growing interest in school-work for natives, by giving fifty dollars for the purpose of buying materials for the Kindergarten Department at Umzumbi.

Home Department.

PLAN OF LESSONS.

It has been thought best to make such a change in the plan for the lessons as will enable those who use them to give some time to the work of the present year, without falling out of line. This month, instead of Bulgaria, as was announced, we give a *General Missionary Review of January and February*. The lessons for the remaining months will be as follows:—

MAY.—*Bulgaria.*

JUNE.—*Bulgaria.*

JULY.—*Review of Woman's Work for Six Months.*

AUGUST.—*China.*

SEPTEMBER.—*Thank-Offerings.*

OCTOBER.—*China.*

NOVEMBER.—*China.*

DECEMBER.—*General Review of Six Months.*

GENERAL MISSIONARY REVIEW.

JANUARY AND FEBRUARY, 1886.

Political Events.—Change of Ministry in France: Effect on Missionary work in Tonquin; in Madagascar. Formal Annexation of Burmah to British Empire. Diplomatic relations between the Pope and China. Anti-Chinese agitation on the Pacific Coast.

Missionary Events.—Interesting Fiftieth Anniversary of the Telugu Mission, India. Bishop Sargent's Jubilee of Service, India. Silver Anniversary of Woman's Union Missionary Society, New York. Month of Special Prayer for Missions appointed by the English Church Mission Society. New Mission to the Moham-medans at Aden. Shall the Central African Mission of the London Missionary Society be given up? Newspaper for the Zenanas issued by the Methodist Woman's Missionary Society. What Bible Translation just completed?

American Board.—How many missions at the beginning of 1886? Where located? How many churches? What new missionaries sent out? To what stations?

Publications.—What new books, pamphlets, and leaflets issued by the A. B. C. F. M. and Woman's Boards?

Annual Meeting.—Woman's Board of Missions at Providence. How many missionaries? Bible-readers? Boarding-Schools? Day-Schools?

Eastern Turkey.—What Central Stations now occupied? Name some of the out-stations. How many missionaries in this field,

ladies included? Name the Educational Institutions in this field, including those for women. Under whose care? Describe the recent tour into Russia.

Morning Star Mission.—Ruk: School opened; Church enlarged; meetings; the Uman Islet; trip to Fefan. *Gilbert Islands*: Training-School; General meeting; How many of the islands occupied? Name them; new islands; incident of little boy saved. Ponape.

Mexico.—Beginnings at "Coosi."

Zulu Mission.—Awakening — at Lindley; at Umsunduzi.

East Central African Mission.—New work at Makodweni. Inquirers' class at Kambini.

Austria.—What right recently secured to the Mission? What new out-stations occupied?

Madura Mission.—Accessions at Palani. At Mandapasalai.

China.—Baptisms in Hong Kong Mission. New Helpers. Peking. Opium Hospital at Shanse.

Japan.—Work in Fukui. Woman's Theological Class in Kobe. Miss Dudley's out-station work.

The *Missionary Herald*, *Life and Light*, *Mission Studies*, and the *Missionary Almanac* furnish all the help necessary for the study of this lesson. The first, second, sixth, and seventh topics will be found to contain sufficient material for five-minute papers or talks. The others may, perhaps, be so condensed as to be given in the form of one-minute items.

THE CHILDREN'S WORK.

WHERE, in all this broad, busy land, can be found a happier company of workers than the Mission Bands of the Interior? $\$2,500 + \$1,361.48 = \$3,861.48$! These figures were the text for a black-board exercise at St. Louis, last October, which gave the children of the Interior so pleasant a surprise that they are working this year more joyfully than ever before: $\$2,500$ asked for in 1885, $\$3,861.48$ given, so of course they will stand ready with the $\$4,000$ for 1886.

Then it is helpful to have a definite object for which to work. They wish to "lend a hand" in "every cause that needs assistance, every wrong that needs resistance;" but they feel that China, Hadjin, Africa, and their beloved Morning Star Mission are the special objects of their love and care.

They delight to know about all missions at home and in foreign lands, but they study these four fields, believing that the more they know of the work there, the more earnestly they can pray for it, the more gladly they will give for it.

God bless the earnest workers, wherever they are, and among them, by no means last or least, the children of the Interior.

L. F. A.

LEAFLETS. Two new leaflets have recently been added to our list. "Dora Turner's Letters," by Mrs. George M. Clark, will be found specially helpful to young ladies. Price, 2 cents each, or 15 cents a dozen. "General Fund," by Mrs. J. F. Temple, presents an important topic in a fresh aspect. Price, 1 cent each, or 10 cents a dozen. Send orders to Secretary W. B. M. I., 75 Madison Street, Chicago.

THE ORIENT AND ITS PEOPLE. We are now prepared to furnish this valuable book at the reduced price of \$1.00. It contains twelve chapters on India, such as: Geographical Sketch; Women of India, Curious Customs, etc.; and ten chapters on China, including Religions of China, Curious Customs, Opium War, Christian Missions, and other topics of equal interest.

It was a beautiful thought of our Methodist friends to choose Easter Sunday for the Children's Missionary Day. Each Sunday-school may thus bring its Easter offering to proclaim to the world that "the Lord is risen." That denomination is aiming at "a million for missions."

A WORD TO SUBSCRIBERS.

SUBSCRIBERS to LIFE AND LIGHT who have been in the habit of sending their subscriptions to Boston, by way of the Mission Rooms in Chicago, are earnestly requested to transmit their subscriptions hereafter to Boston directly. Please have your drafts or money-orders made payable to "Secretary of LIFE AND LIGHT," as requested on second page of cover.

Postal-notes and stamps are no safer than bank-notes. If you do not receive a receipt from Boston within a week or ten days, write again. The magazine is partially edited in Chicago, but is printed and mailed in Boston. The subscription list and delinquent list are there, and any errors should be corrected there.

During the year 1885, 370 subscriptions were received in Chicago and transmitted to Boston, at an expenditure of time and correspondence which would have been saved by sending at once to Boston. Postal-notes, money-orders, and drafts made payable in Chicago, had to be collected here and forwarded in a new draft. A little trouble on your part will save a good deal of trouble here,

since "many a little makes a mickle," and we shall be much indebted.

EDITORIAL COMMITTEE.

CHICAGO, Feb. 18, 1886.

WOMAN'S BOARD OF THE INTERIOR.

MRS. J. B. LEAKE, TREASURER.

RECEIPTS FROM JANUARY 18 TO FEBRUARY 18, 1886.

ILLINOIS.

BRANCH.—Mrs. W. A. Talcott, of Rockford, Treas. *Ashkum*, \$2.25; *Chebanse*, \$3.50; *Chicago*, Plymouth Ch., \$215; New Eng. Ch., \$56.19; First Ch., to const. L. M's Mrs. Emma S. Munger and Miss Helen Kingsley, \$50; *Dundee*, \$17.10; *Evanston*, \$10; *Galesburg*, Brick Ch. to const. L. M., Miss Marietta Jenney, \$28.73; *Genoa Junction*, Wis., \$6.28; *Glencoe*, \$18.10; *Henry*, \$5; *Highland*, \$5; *Lyonsville*, \$9; *Macomb*, \$10.50; *Millburn*, \$10; *Oak Park*, \$28.50; *Payson*, \$27; *Princeton*, \$30; *Prospect Park*, \$12; *Rockford*, First Ch., \$52.76; Second Ch., \$33.25; a friend, to const. L. M. Mrs. H. W. Taylor, \$25; *Wauponsie Grove*, \$10, \$663 16

JUNIOR: *Chicago*, New Eng. Ch., Y. L. S., \$24.19; South Ch., Y. L. S., \$75; First Ch., Y. L. S., \$51; *Plano*, Y. L. S., \$4; *Port Byron*, Y. Peo. S., \$2.50; *Wilmette*, Y. L. S., \$11.65, 168 34

JUVENILE: *Ashkum*, Buds of Promise, \$1.70; *Cable*, Gospel Messengers, \$4; *Danvers*. Busy Bee Soc., \$11.95; *Elgin*, Acorn Mission Band, \$27; *Galesburg*, First Ch. of Christ, S. Sch., \$16.68, 61 33

Total, \$894 83

INDIANA.

BRANCH.—Mrs. N. A. Hyde, of Indianapolis, Treas. *Terre Haute*, \$18. Total, \$18 00

IOWA.

BRANCH.—Mrs. E. R. Potter of Grinnell, Treas. *Aiden*, \$4.20; *Davenport*, \$20; *Des Moines*, \$37.80; *Grinnell*, \$43.20; *Eldora*, \$9.94; *Lyons*, \$27.27; *Mag-*

nolia, \$4.75; *Muscatine*, \$64; *McGregor*, \$9.75, \$220 91

JUNIOR: *Chester Centre*, King's Daughters, \$3.00; *Decorah*, \$5.00; *Grinnell*, Y. L. M. S. of the Cong. Ch., \$10.47, 18 47

JUVENILE: *Des Moines*, S. Sch., 6.63; *Eldora*, Infant Class, \$2.00, 8 63

Total, \$248 01

MICHIGAN.

BRANCH.—Mrs. Chas. E. Fox, of Detroit, Treas. *Adrian*, \$5; *Augusta*, Aux., 2.50, Miss Alma C. Childs, for L. Membership, \$25; *Alpine and Walker*, 60c.; *Almont*, Mrs. M. P. Jones, \$5; *Ann Arbor*, \$22.95; *Calumet*, \$35; *Detroit*, a friend, \$1, Woodward Av. Ch., \$50, a young friend, \$20; *Dowagiac*, \$4.84; *Edmore*, Aux., 50 cts, Mrs. J. D. Sanford, \$5; *Eaton Rapids*, \$15; *East Newton*, \$10; *East Saginaw*, \$100; *Flint*, \$49.13; *Hancock*, \$20; *Highland Station*, \$2.80; *Greenville*, \$32.64; *Grand Blanc*, \$6.90; *Grand Rapids*, First Ch., \$20.40, South Ch., \$17; Jackson, \$178; *Lake Linden*, \$33; *Manistee*, \$25; *Morenci*, \$4.60; *Stanton*, \$10.10; *Summit*, \$6.73; *Traverse City*, \$7; *Ypsilanti*, \$5.50, \$820 19

JUNIOR: *Ann Arbor*, \$50.95; *Detroit*, Harper Av., Gleaner's Band, \$20; *Grand Rapids*, First Ch., \$10, Second Ch., \$12, South Ch., \$3; *Jackson*, \$60; *Lake Linden*, \$15, 170 95

JUVENILE: *Detroit*, First Ch., Sunbeam Band and Opportunity Club, \$10, Woodward Av. Ch., King's Cup-Bearers, \$8.73; *Stanton*, Hibbard Mission Band, \$5, 23 73

Total, \$1,014 87

MINNESOTA.

BRANCH.—Mrs. E. M. Williams, of Northfield, Treas. <i>Glyndon</i> , \$11.25; <i>Minneapolis</i> , Vine Ch., \$20; <i>Montevideo</i> , \$5.05; <i>New Richland</i> , \$3; <i>Northfield</i> , \$9.10; <i>St. Paul</i> , \$78.25, Miss L. W. Simpson, \$10,	
	\$136 65
JUNIOR: <i>Minneapolis</i> , Plymouth Ch., Y. L. M. Soc.,	7 14
JUVENILE: <i>Minneapolis</i> , Plymouth Ch., Cheerful Givers, \$10, Second Ch., The Bees, \$5,	15 00
Total,	\$158 79

MISSOURI.

BRANCH.—Mrs. J. H. Drew, 3101 Washington Ave., St. Louis, Treas. <i>Cameron</i> , \$8; <i>St. Louis</i> , Fifth Cong. Ch., \$8.09; <i>Springfield</i> , Central Cong. Ch., to become Aux., \$10,	
	\$26 09
JUNIOR: <i>St. Louis</i> , Young Ladies' Soc., Pilgrim Ch., \$62.50, Fifth Cong. Ch., Coral Workers, \$36.17; <i>Hyde Park</i> , Gleaners, \$5.60,	104 27
JUVENILE: <i>Pierce City</i> , S. S. of First Cong. Ch., for Minnie Brown Institute, \$5.25; <i>Indian Ter.</i> , Children's Miss. Soc., Worcester Academy, for Minnie Brown Institute, \$5,	10 25
Total,	\$140 61

NEBRASKA.

Woman's Miss. Ass., Mrs. Geo. W. Hall, of Omaha, Treas. <i>Greenwood</i> , \$3.30; <i>Nebraska City</i> , \$10; <i>Norfolk</i> , \$14; <i>Omaha</i> , \$6; <i>York</i> , \$12,	
	\$45 30
JUVENILE: <i>Nebraska City</i> ,	10 00
Total,	\$55 30

OHIO.

BRANCH.—Mrs. Geo. H. Ely, of Elyria, Treas. <i>Burton</i> , A. C. H., \$5; <i>Cleveland</i> , Euclid Ave. Ch., \$38; <i>Medina</i> , \$10; <i>Oberlin</i> , \$68; <i>Painesville</i> , \$50; <i>Parkman</i> , \$2; <i>Salem</i> , Mrs. Allen, \$5; <i>Toledo</i> , First Ch., \$110,	
	\$288 00
JUNIOR: <i>Marietta</i> , Y. L. M. Soc.	48 00
JUVENILE: <i>Elyria</i> , Golden Links, \$10; <i>Parkman</i> , S. S., \$1.55,	11 55
	\$347 55
Less expenses,	2 97
Total,	\$344 58

ROCKY MOUNTAIN

BRANCH.— <i>Denver</i> , Col., First Ch.,	\$50 00
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SOUTH DAKOTA.

BRANCH: Mrs. F. D. Wilder, of Huron, Treas. <i>Yankton</i> , \$11 35.	
JUVENILE: <i>Faulkton</i> , S. S., Prim. Cl., \$1.50; <i>Huron</i> , Children's Christian Band, \$4.85; <i>Britton</i> , Louise and Lois Beach, certificates, 20 cts.,	6 55
Total,	\$17 90

WISCONSIN.

BRANCH.—Mrs. R. Coburn, of Whitewater, Treas. <i>Beloit</i> , First Ch., \$6.50; <i>Browtown</i> , Mr. and Mrs. M. M. Lathrop, \$5; <i>Brodhead</i> , \$4.64; <i>Bristol and Paris</i> , \$20; <i>Clinton</i> , \$5; <i>Delavan</i> , \$13.44; <i>Ft. Atkinson</i> , \$25; <i>Green Bay</i> , \$15; <i>Hartland</i> , \$15; <i>Kilbourn City</i> , M. M. Jenkins, \$16; <i>Kinnickinnick</i> , \$4; <i>Lancaster</i> , \$8; <i>Milwaukee</i> , Gr. Avenue Ch., \$16.71; <i>Ripon</i> , \$5; <i>Racine</i> , \$77.07; <i>River Falls</i> , \$11; <i>Royalton</i> , Literary Society, \$5, \$252 36	
JUNIOR: <i>Milwaukee</i> , Gr. Ave., Ch. Young Ladies, \$25; <i>Plymouth Ch.</i> , Helping Hand Society, \$100; <i>Oshkosh</i> , a few young persons, \$2.25,	127 25
JUVENILE: <i>Kilbourn City</i> , Methodist S. S., \$7.88; <i>Potosi</i> , Sunbeam Class in S. S., \$1,	8 88
	\$388 49
Less expenses,	17 76
Total,	\$370 73

GEORGIA.

<i>Atlanta</i> , First Ch., Aux. Soc.	\$17 50
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MISCELLANEOUS.

For expenses of Union Meeting, \$1; from sale of Coan's life, \$2; of the "Orient and its People," \$2; of leaflets, \$96.62; of envelopes, \$16.91; of waste paper, 50 cts.; of mite boxes, 13 cts.	
	\$119 16
Receipts for month,	\$3,450 28
Previously acknowledged,	5,094 32
Total since Oct. 29,	\$8,543 60

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The younger readers of *LIFE AND LIGHT* may enjoy the following story of what the children are doing for missions on this Pacific coast. Even from the Hawaiian Islands come the names of six little ones, with their gift and the pleasant message, "For the Golden Chain Circle, *aloha* from the Isles."

In the Poet's vision,

"The whole round world is every way
Bound by gold chains about the feet of God;"

and we love to think that the little links of gold in Grandma Thoburn's hand are only the visible sign of an endless chain whose links of heavenly light in the hearts of the children, and of older ones as well, are drawing us nearer to the throne, and bringing blessings down upon us, and upon "the whole round world," that only God can know.

GRANDMA THOBURN'S CHAIN.

BY H. E. J.

"He cometh unto you with a tale which holdeth children from play."

Come, children, and take these front seats, while I tell you the story of the missionary chain. You know how your mammas and grandmas have started out every few weeks to attend a missionary meeting, leaving you at school or with some sober-minded Katharina or Bridget, or, possibly with your Aunt Prudence or big sister Jane. If you lived at our house you would know all about Miss Starkweather, and Miss Gulick, and Mrs. Holbrook, and Miss Gunnison; I presume you know a good deal about them and their work; if not, ask your mammas, and they can tell you. There is a lady in San Francisco whose name no one seems to know,—so I will have to call her Mrs. Nemo,—who knows how much good these missionaries are doing in Japan, and Spain, and South Africa.

She longed to help them tell

"The old, old story
Of Jesus and his love."

But her heart was bigger than her purse, so she said, "I have a gold chain, which, if sold, might bring a little money that could be used by the missionaries for the good of heathen women." Mrs. Cole, the Treasurer of the Woman's Board of Missions of Pacific, was glad to get the chain. But what should she do with it? She thought about it, and others thought about it. You know something always comes of thinking, whether it be about a conundrum, an example in arithmetic, a duty or a watch-chain. Well, after these ladies had thought about the chain, they began to think of an old lady. Did you ever think of a watch-chain and an old lady? If not, I am sure you will very often after I have finished my story. No doubt you have thought of your grandma, with her sweet face and silvery hair. But this old lady is your other grandma now. In a large church full of people, in Berkeley, Mr. J. M. Haven (whom I wish you all knew) told your papas and mammas, and all the other grown-up people, about her. He said she was born in the year 1800. That was before your grandpa and grandma were born. For eighty-five years she has lived in this world doing good to all about her. Twelve years ago, at Santa Cruz, she joined with other ladies in starting the Woman's Board. Now, the thing thought of by the ladies, as they looked at the beautiful gold chain, was, "We will ask the people in this church to-night to buy this chain, in shares of one dollar each, and give it to Grandma Thoburn, of Rio Vista. Evening came, and after the secretaries had finished reading their reports, Mr. Haven told the story of the chain. He told of the love for Christ which led the unknown friend in San Francisco to make the gift. He told of Mrs. Thoburn, and of her love for missionary work, and then he began to ask the people to take shares in the chain. How quickly the names began to come in, the names of children falling upon the air like apple-blossoms in the springtime—your names, and with your names the dollars! We won't try to recall the names of the old folks, but look closely and see if you recognize your names in this list: I give them in the order subscribed: Gertrude M. J., Mary F. J., Theodore F. S., Albert B., Mary H. P., Henry S. P.; a P. too small to have a name; Elsie M. C.; four little brothers and sisters H., one of whom is in heaven; Harold W., two little E's, Benton P., Charles P. B., two R's, Bessie and Hattie M., Eva M., two little B's just from the "Islands," Baby V., Alice B. O., Edith C., infant class in Saratoga, Phoebe B., Johny H., Morning Star Lights of Market Street, Oakland, Erle L., Julia, Charles, Willie and Mary C., Walter I. M., of Iowa, Willis T., Alfred H. B., Herbert B. W., Willie W. W., Helen W., Fred N., Susie P., Mary McL., Sam Fay B. The names

and the dollars kept coming in until there were as many dollars as the years of Grandma Thoburn's life. The morning came, and with it more dollars, until that gold chain had brought one hundred and three dollars into the treasury. Now, children, you must know that this money will help support the missionaries, and the chain has gone to Mrs. Hannah Thoburn, of Rio Vista, the oldest active member of the Woman's Board of Missions of the Pacific.

Did you ever think how the Bible seems to have a verse for every occasion? The chain was sent with this verse: "I decked thee also with ornaments, and I put a chain on thy neck. . . . And thy renown went forth among the heathen for thy beauty." (Ezek. xvi. 11-15.) The answer came back as follows:—

"To the Friends and Co-Workers of the Woman's Board of Missions of the Pacific.—1873-1885: 'A gift is as a precious stone in the eyes of him that hath it; whithersoever it turneth it prospereth.' (Prov. xvii. 8.)

HANNAH T. THOBURN."

And now my long story must be brought to a close. A beautiful autograph album has been prepared, at the suggestion of Mr. George Locke, who has ten shares in the chain. It contains Grandma Thoburn's photograph and a lock of her rich, nut-brown hair, in which Father Time has sprinkled no silvery threads. All your names will be written in this album, and sometime you will, we hope, see the book, and write your names yourselves. If there are those among your friends who wish to take shares in this chain, tell them they can pay the money (a dollar a share) to Mrs. R. E. Cole, Treasurer of the Board, at Oakland, and their names will be entered in the album. Let the children's tribute to old age be like the laughing spring, that sends its sparkling waters down through the fields all through the year; for every dollar given is an offering to the Lord, who loves the children in these happy Christian homes of America, and in the heathen homes of other lands.

LETTER FROM MISS GUNNISON.

KOBE, Dec. 6, 1885.

. . . THE school-work here is so delightful! We have now at least ninety-eight scholars, almost seventy of whom are boarders. New applications for admission to the school are constantly coming in, but it is not always wise or possible to accept them. There are so many girls now being supported by the school, that the funds for pupils in indigent circumstances are all in use. If we

had room enough, and the means, undoubtedly our school might now number one hundred and fifty. But as it is, there is sufficient work for another teacher. As a new-comer, I cannot do as much as I desire to do; but when I am able to take my place in the ranks with the others, there will be an opportunity for another to take up the work which falls to me now. Miss Brown, Miss Searle, and I live very happily together; and although at first my desire to go to Kioto was very strong, I have become so attached to this school now that it would be very hard for me to leave. My class in reading and conversation is composed of such nice, lovable girls that I enjoy it very much. I have seven music scholars, all of whom are very faithful and enjoyable pupils.

As I sit here writing, I can hear the girls singing in their regular Sabbath evening prayer-meeting. The tunes they use are the same as ours, but the words are translated into Japanese. The weekly prayer-meeting of the Kobe Church is held once a month, in our schoolroom, when the welfare of the school is the special topic of prayer. One of these meetings I attended last month, and received much help from it, I am sure. Not one word during the evening could I understand, but the Spirit of the Lord was there, and a prayer was rising constantly from my heart that all present might be blessed. I had a Romanized version of the hymns, and so was able to join in the singing; the meaning of the words, however, I should not have known had I not been familiar with the hymns in English.

I enjoyed the report of the General Association Meeting, which reminded me of last year's meeting at Stockton, which so filled me with love and zeal that I am now in Japan as a result. . . . Letters are coming from dear friends, telling me of their joys and sorrows. I sometimes long to be with them; but the desire does not trouble me long, for it is always quickly followed by the feeling that it is such a great privilege to be engaged in this blessed work, and the thought keeps my heart full of joy constantly.

“Go, send my gospel with joy and peace,
With a loving haste across the seas;
There is no toil but your Lord shall share,
For, lo, I am with you everywhere.”

“Oh! if there shall come to the land of rest,
From the North and South, from the East and West,
The souls of the ransomed *we* gathered there,
In answer to faith, and work, and prayer, —

“Oh! how small to us will seem the price
Of our greatest labor and sacrifice,
In the glad new song that to you and me
May come to our ears from over the sea!”

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Life and Sight

FOR WOMAN.

PUBLISHED MONTHLY

BY THE

WOMAN'S BOARDS OF MISSIONS,

CO-OPERATING WITH THE

American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions.

TERMS:

Sixty Cents a Year in Advance.

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ARTICLE I.—This Society shall be called "THE WOMAN'S MISSIONARY SOCIETY," auxiliary to the ——— Branch of WOMAN'S BOARD OF MISSIONS.

ART. II.—The officers of this Society shall be a Directress, Secretary, and Treasurer, chosen annually.

ART. III.—The object of this Society shall be the collection of money for foreign missionary purposes, and the cultivation of a missionary spirit among its members.

ART. IV.—All money raised by this Society shall be sent to the Treasurer of the ——— Branch of WOMAN'S BOARD OF MISSIONS, for the purposes of their organization.

ART. V.—Any person may become a member of this Society by the payment of ——— annually.

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For the WOMAN'S BOARD OF MISSIONS OF THE INTERIOR, incorporated in Illinois, in 1873:

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